

CITY OF PLEASANTON
REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

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**CITY OF PLEASANTON
REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS**

For The Year Ended June 30, 2018

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REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS

To the City Council of
the City of Pleasanton, California

We have audited the basic financial statements of the City of Pleasanton, California, for the year ended June 30, 2018. Professional standards require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit under generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards* and Uniform Guidance.

Significant Audit Findings

Accounting Policies

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the City are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year, except as follows:

GASB 75 – Accounting and Financial Reporting for Post-employment Benefits Other Than Pensions

The primary objective of this Statement is to improve accounting and financial reporting by state and local governments for post-employment benefits other than pensions (other post-employment benefits or OPEB). It also improves information provided by state and local governmental employers about financial support for OPEB that is provided by other entities. This Statement results from a comprehensive review of the effectiveness of existing standards of accounting and financial reporting for all post-employment benefits (pensions and OPEB) with regard to providing decision-useful information, supporting assessments of accountability and inter-period equity, and creating additional transparency.

This Statement replaces the requirements of Statements No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, as amended, and No. 57, *OPEB Measurements by Agent Employers and Agent Multiple-Employer Plans*, for OPEB. Statement No. 74, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*, establishes new accounting and financial reporting requirements for OPEB plans.

The scope of this Statement addresses accounting and financial reporting for OPEB that is provided to the employees of state and local governmental employers. This Statement establishes standards for recognizing and measuring liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and expense/expenditures. For defined benefit OPEB, this Statement identifies the methods and assumptions that are required to be used to project benefit payments, discount projected benefit payments to their actuarial present value, and attribute that present value to periods of employee service. Note disclosure and required supplementary information requirements about defined benefit OPEB also are addressed.

In addition, this Statement details the recognition and disclosure requirements for employers with payables to defined benefit OPEB plans that are administered through trusts that meet the specified criteria and for employers whose employees are provided with defined contribution OPEB. This Statement also addresses certain circumstances in which a nonemployer entity provides financial support for OPEB of employees of another entity.

In this Statement, distinctions are made regarding the particular requirements depending upon whether the OPEB plans through which the benefits are provided are administered through trusts that meet the following criteria:

- Contributions from employers and nonemployer contributing entities to the OPEB plan and earnings on those contributions are irrevocable.
- OPEB plan assets are dedicated to providing OPEB to plan members in accordance with the benefit terms.
- OPEB plan assets are legally protected from the creditors of employers, nonemployer contributing entities, the OPEB plan administrator, and the plan members.

The pronouncement became effective, and as disclosed in Note 1R and 9D to the financial statements required a prior period restatement for the cumulative effect on the financial statements.

Investment (Deficit) in the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD) –

The City elected to use the equity method of accounting to report its share of the net activities, including pension and OPEB activities, of LPFD. This change in accounting required a restatement of Internal Service Funds, and changed the presentation in the governmental activities on the Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities.

The following GASB pronouncements became effective, but did not have a material effect on the financial statements:

GASB 81 - Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements

GASB 85 - Omnibus 2017

GASB 86 - Certain Debt Extinguishment Issues

Unusual Transactions, Controversial or Emerging Areas

We noted no transactions entered into by the City during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the City's financial statements were:

Estimated Net Pension Liabilities and Pension-Related Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources: Management's estimate of the net pension liabilities and deferred outflows/inflows of resources are disclosed in Note 10 to the financial statements and are based on accounting valuations determined by the California Public Employees Retirement System, which are based on the experience of the City. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimates and determined that they are reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Estimated Net OPEB Liabilities and OPEB-Related Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources: Management's estimate of the net OPEB liabilities and deferred outflows/inflows of resources are disclosed in Note 11 to the financial statements and are based on actuarial studies determined by a consultant, which are based on the experience of the City. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Estimate of Depreciation: Management's estimate of the depreciation is based on useful lives determined by management. These lives have been determined by management based on the expected useful life of assets as disclosed in Note 1J to the financial statements. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the depreciation estimate and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Estimate of Compensated Absences: Accrued compensated absences which are comprised of accrued vacation, holiday, and certain other compensating time is estimated using accumulated unpaid leave hours and hourly pay rates in effect at the end of the fiscal year as disclosed in Note 1K to the financial statements. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the accrued compensated absences and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Disclosures

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to each opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole.

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely uncorrected misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. We have no such misstatements to report to the City Council.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in a management representation letter dated December 13, 2018.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the City's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the City's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Information Accompanying the Financial Statements

We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information that accompanies and supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the required supplementary information and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the required supplementary information.

We were engaged to report on the supplementary information, which accompanies the financial statements but is not required supplementary information. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

We were not engaged to report on the Introductory and Statistical Sections included as part of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, but are not required supplementary information. We did not audit or perform other procedures on this other information and we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.

This information is intended solely for the use of City Council and management and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Maze & Associates

Pleasant Hill, California
December 13, 2018

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